

CT-1177, World War I Monument  
Calvert County  
Capsule Summary

The World War I Monument of Prince Frederick stands centered in front of the main entrance to the Calvert County Courthouse on Route 765. Facing east, the monument is a high-relief bronze allegorical figure mounted in a white limestone stele on a granite base.

The Monument is significant for its commemoration of citizens of Calvert County, as a representative example of the work of a prominent Baltimore sculptor, Edward Berge, and as a monumental stele memorial. The memorial was erected in 1920 by citizens of Calvert County to commemorate soldiers and sailors of the county who served and died in the war.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CT-1177

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic World War I Monument

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number Courthouse Square, Rte. 765 and 4th St. ☐ not for publicationcity, town Prince Frederick ☐ vicinity of congressional district 1st

state MD county Calvert

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: commemorative

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Calvert County Commissioners

street &amp; number Courthouse, 175 Main St. telephone no.: (410) 535-1600

city, town Prince Frederick state and zip code MD 20678

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber

street &amp; number 175 Main St. folio

city, town Prince Frederick state MD 20678

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. CT-1177

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The World War I Monument of Prince Frederick stands centered in front of the main entrance to the Calvert County Courthouse on Route 765. Facing east, the monument is a high-relief bronze allegorical figure mounted in a white limestone stele on a granite base.

The monument, erected in 1920, stands in a brick walkway which bisects the courthouse green from the street to the front door. A large tree overhangs the monument from the north side of the walk. The monument is flanked in the yard by a white marble World War II monument to the south and a similar one to those who served and died in Korea and Vietnam to the north.

The bronze relief is composed of a life-sized figure of War standing behind two inscribed bronze tablets set at angles, her hands resting on the front corner of each and her knee projecting between. The figure wears a breast plate and her helmet projects above the stone frame. Her gown falls in classical folds to her feet and spills over her left arm to drape atop a tablet. Fabric about her shoulders is modeled to appear to billow behind. Framing her in the background is a low relief of a sunburst. Two lilies are modeled at the lower left corner of the composition.

Inscribed on the left tablet is the inscription: "THE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF CALVERT COUNTY WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE WORLD WAR," followed by eleven names. On the right tablet the inscription reads: "THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN PATRIOTS FROM THIS COUNTY ANSWERED THE CALL FOR LIBERTY AND HUMANITY," followed by seven more names. Beneath the tablets the left corner of the relief is inscribed: "ROMAN BRONZE WORKS, N.Y." The right corner is inscribed "E. Berge SC" and "W. C. Beecher ARCH." The date "1920" is carved into the limestone directly below the bronze. The reverse of the limestone stele is carved with the inscription: "THIS MEMORIAL IS ERECTED BY THE CITIZENS OF CALVERT COUNTY TO PERPETUATE THE MEMORY OF THEIR SONS AND DAUGHTERS WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE AND TO THOSE WHO SERVED THEIR COUNTRY IN THE GREAT WORLDWIDE WAR 1917-1918."

In spring 1992 the bronze showed some light tan colored streaking on the right arm of the figure and in the upper left corner. There was some pitting in the toes and along the lower front edge. The stone showed evidence of prior cleaning, possibly scrubbing, and cupric staining. There was a gap between the stone and bronze at the upper left side. There was a moderate amount of loose mortar at the corners and base of the stele. In autumn 1993 the Maryland Military Monuments Commission had the monument treated by conservator Nicolas Veloz. The

## 8. Significance

Survey No. CT-1177

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

---

**Specific dates** 1920      **Builder/Architect** J. M. Miller, sculp./W. C. Beecher, arch.

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒A ☐B ☒C ☐D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception: ☐A ☐B ☐C ☐D ☐E ☒F ☐G

Level of Significance: ☐national ☒state ☐local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The World War I Monument in Prince Frederick is significant for its commemoration of citizens of Calvert County. It is a representative example of the work of a prominent local sculptor, Edward Berge and is a significant monumental stele memorial.

The memorial was erected in 1920 by citizens of Calvert County to commemorate soldiers and sailors of the county who served and died in the war.

The memorial features a sculpture by the Baltimore artist Edward Berge, who also executed the Armistead monument at Ft. McHenry, the Hayes statue at City Hall, the Latrobe monument, on which he collaborated with J. Maxwell Miller, and "On the Trail" in Clifton Park. W. C. Beecher, architect of the Prince Frederick memorial, was also architect of the Latrobe monument.<sup>1</sup>

Of the sculptor, William Sener Rusk wrote, "Since his student days with Rodin, Mr. Berge's work has been marked by an unusual breadth and intellectual sanity."<sup>2</sup> The use of the angled tablets with the figure emerging from between, the billowing drapery against the flat background and the quick and rough modeling of the figure animate the surface and enhance the illusion of depth. The sculptor has demonstrated here a clear influence of the master.

The placement of the monument in front of the courthouse (built in 1915) and the use of the classical stele form reflect the influence of the City Beautiful movement on Calvert County. One other example of the monumental stele with high relief bronze sculpture is found at St. John's College in Annapolis, the

---

<sup>1</sup>William Sener Rusk, Art in Baltimore: Monuments and Memorials (Baltimore: the Norman, Remington Company, 1924), 58.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid., 6.



CT-1177, World War I Monument  
Calvert County  
7.1 Description

bronze was cleaned with walnut shell air abrasive, washed and waxed. The limestone was washed and poultices were applied to remove the copper staining.

CT-1177, World War I Monument  
Calvert County  
8.1 Significance

Monument to French Soldiers and Sailors of the American Revolution of 1911 by J. Maxwell Miller. Two other local examples, similar in type but modeled in low relief, are the World War I monuments at St. John's College (sculpted by Schuler in 1920) and in Upper Marlboro (sculpted by Miller in 1919).

CT-1177, World War I Monument  
Calvert County

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA  
STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXTS

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance  
A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Military and  
Social/Educational/Cultural

Resource Type:

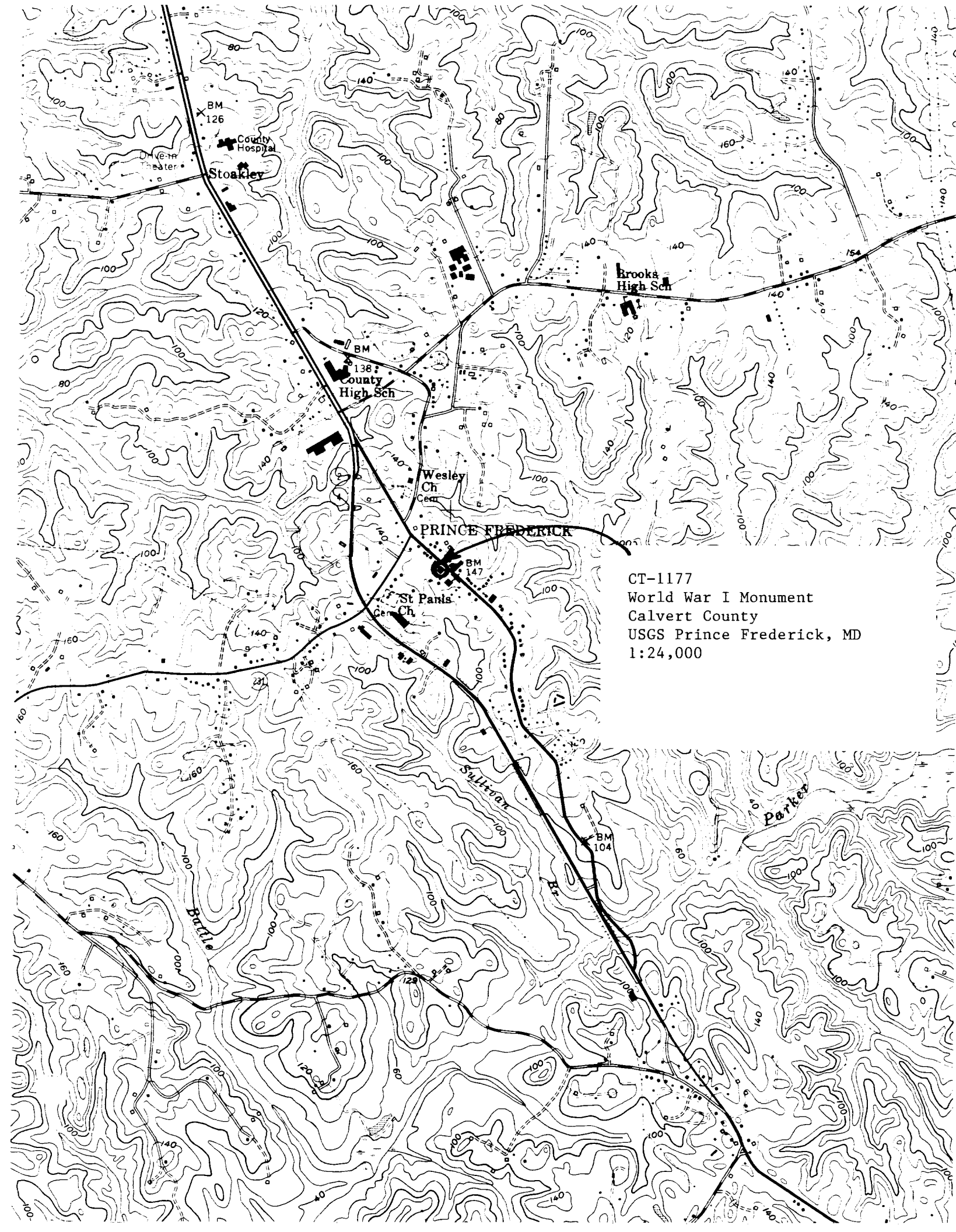
Category: Object

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): RECREATION AND  
CULTURE/monument

Known Design Source(s): W. C. Beecher (Architect), Edward  
Berge (Sculptor), Roman Bronze Works, NY (Foundry)





CT-1177  
World War I Monument  
Calvert County  
USGS Prince Frederick, MD  
1:24,000